

FM THE WHITE HOUSE TO HAK 75

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CITE WH29829 SECTION ONE OF THREE

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

TOHAK 75

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MORI/CDF C03354547

NEWS SUMMARY, DECEMBER 7

State Dept. review completed

(WED NETS, WIRES)

THE MAJOR STORIES OF THE DAY:

-- HAK/THO SESSION WAS NO.2. ON NBC, NO.3 ABC/CBS. CBS'S KALISCHER SAID THE TALKS WERE ON AGAIN AND SO WAS THE USUAL RACE BY THE NEWSMEN--"FOLLOW HAK" IS THE NAME OF THE GAME. SIMILAR FILM REPORT ON ABC.... ALL NETS NOTED THE TALKS WERE HELD IN FASHIONABLE NEUILLY IN HOME OF WEALTHY JEWELRY WHERE HAK, AS HOST, GREETED NVN DELEGATION. ALL NETS STRESSED THE CORDIALITY AND WARMTH DISPLAYED BY BOTH SIDES, W/KALISCHER SAYING THE UNPRECEDENTED FAREWELL HANDSHAKES ALMOST SEEMED TO BE SAYING THEY'RE SEALING THE DEAL.... CBS'S COLLINGWOOD W/OPTIMISTIC REPORT THAT AGREEMENT COULD BE REACHED AS EARLY AS THURS. FOR THE FIRST TIME THERE ARE ASSURANCES TALKS ARE ON COURSE AND NEAR THE END.

--BRIEF NOTE ON ALL NETS OF BUTZ STAYING AT USDA AND FREDERICK DENT BEING NAMED TO REPLACE PETERSON, WHO WILL TRAVEL TO DISCUSS ECONOMIC ISSUES W/ALLIES BEFORE RETURNING TO PRIVATE LIFE. CBS FILMED INTERVIEW W/PETERSON WHO SAID HE WISHED HE HAD RECEIVED SPECIAL AMBASSADORSHIP OFFER AT ANOTHER TIME, BUT HE'S ESSENTIALLY INTERESTED INWORKING IN AREA RN THINKS IMPORTANT. PIERPOINT QUOTED SOURCES AS SAYING PETERSON HAD MADE SOME "POWERFUL ENEMIES" AT WH, DESPITE ZIEGLER'S INSISTANCE THAT DECISION WAS A JOINT RN-PETERSON ONE... SCHORR W/PROFILE OF COMMERCE SUGGESTED PETERSON WAS UNHAPPY BECAUSE COMME CE'S RESPONSIBILITIES HAD BEEN DOWNGRADED AND BOWED OUT.

-- ALL NETS W/FILM OF TAN SON NHUT AFTERMATH AND ARVN'S QUICK ACTION IN LOCATING ORIGIN OF ATTACK AND MOUNTING COUNTER-ATTACK... NBC/NBS STRESSED FACT VC SHOWED THEY COULD STILL OPERATE W/IN A FEW MILES OF SAIGON AND ALTHO TALKS WERE IN SESSION, WAR WAS CONTINUING, AND ALL EMPHASIZING CIVILIAN CASUALTIES.

ILL AND RECOVERY UNCERTAIN -- REPORTED ALL NETS. HST IS RESTING COMFORTABLY, BUT BRONCHITIS HAS BEEN ADDED TO DIAGNOSIS.

INDOCHINA

-- NBC'S DOBYNS OVER HAK GREETING THO AT START OF WED'S TALKS NOTED THIS WAS 8TH MEETING IN PAST FEW WEEKS AND IT SEEMED VERY CORDIAL, EVEN INCLUDING A WALK IN THE YARD. HE SAID BOTH SIDES REFUSED TO COMMENT ON TALKS, PROGRESS OR A FRENCH NEWSPAPER'S SPECULATION THEY WERE WORKING ON THE FINAL WORDING OF AN AGREEMENT. BUT BOTH SIDES ARE KEEPING IN CLOSE TOUCH W/RESPECTIVE CAPITALS, DOBYNS SEID. HE NOTED THE FAREWELL WAS AS WARM AND CORDIAL AS THE GREETING, ADDING MAYBE THE PUBLIC TALKS THURS. WILL GIVE A HINT TO ZHAT'S HAPPENING.

-- CBS' COLLINSWOOD SAID IT APPEARS HAK-THO TALKS WILL CONCLUDE THIS WEEK AND AGREEMENT COULD COME EARLY AS THURS. ALTHO BOTH SIDES ARE HAVING DIFFICULTY CONVINCING THEIR ALLIES OF ITS MERITS. THERE WAS INTENSE BARGAINING IN SESSION OVER MODIFICATIONS, HE SAID.

-- ABC LED ROLFSON'S REPORT SAYING HAK AND THO "SMILED BROADLY" WITH A "DISPLAY OF AMENITIES" THAT STRENGTHENED SPECULATION THAT AN AGREEMENT IS NOT FAR OFF. ROLFSON SAID THAT PURSUING HAK IS THE 1ST MOVE IN GETTING THE STORY; THEY SELECTED YET A THIRD LOCATION FOR THE MEETING, A HOUSE THAT BELONGS TO ARNAUD CLERC. CLERC (ON FILM) ANSWERED THAT HIS HOUSE WAS SELECTED PERHAPS BECAUSE HE'S ALREADY BEEN INVOLVED IN FRANCO-AMERICAN RELATIONS, THUS THEY "KNEW MY HOUSE," AND PERHAPS FOUND ITS SIZE AND FEATURES AGREEABLE. OVER FILM OF HAK/THO, ROLFSON SAID THEY WALKED IN THE YARD PERHAPS TO LET IT BE SEEN THAT THEY ARE WORKING TO END THE WAR, EVEN THO THEY REVEAL NOTHING. OVER FILM OF THE HAND-SHAKE, ROLFSON SAID IT INVITED SPECULATION THAT IT BE VIEWED AS "SEALING A BARGAIN," THO THE TALKS WERE ADJOURNED FOR YET ANOTHER ROUND.

-- MUDD SAID THERE WAS A TIME WHEN HAK AND THO MET IN SECRECY, BUT THAT'S ALL CHANGED, LEADING INTO KALISCHER FILM REPORT OF THE "FOLLOW HAK" GAME. KALISCHER NOTED NEWSMEN ON MOTORCYCLES OR CARS TAKE OFF AFTER HAK WHILE THE POLICE TRY TO STOP THEM. THEY

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COMMUNICATE W/EACH OTHER BY WALKIE-TALKIE OR RADIO PHONE AND DISREGARD TRAFFIC LIGHTS, HE SAID. OVER FILM OF HAK "MAKING A POINT" TO GREET THO, KALISCHER NOTED BOTH HAK AND THO WERE ACCCOMPANIED BY FULL STAFFS, INDICATING AN IMPORTANT SESSION, AND THE OUTDOOR TETE-A-TETE WAS ENLARGED TO INCLUDE MOST OF THE STAFFERS. VISUALLY, IT WAS THE FRIENDLIEST SESSION, YET, HE SAID, NOTING AN HAK JOKE CAUSED LAUGHTER, A SLAP ON THE BACK, AND A COMMENT FROM THE NVN SIDE. THERE WAS A SENSE OF POSITIVE ACCOMPLISHMENT WHICH NO ONE WANTED TO HIDE, HE SAID, ADDING NVN ANNOUNCED BOTH WHEN AND WHERE THE NEXT MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE. THE LENGTHY 5 1/2 HOUR MEETING AND THE EXTREME CORDIALITY -- PLAYED OUT PURPOSELY OR ACCIDENTALLY -- INDICATED WASH. AND HANOI HAD REACHED SOME CONCLUSIONS....UPI SAYS THERE ZAS STILL NO PUBLIC SIGN TO SUPPORT SPECULATION THAT A CEASE-FIRE COULD COME BY XMAS.

ABC'S CIOFFI SAID THAT ALTHO THE DELEGATES GO THRU THE MOTION OF KEEPING THE MEETING PLACES SECRET, THEY ARE "NOT TRYING VERY HARD." THEY ARE LOCATED RATHER EASILY, HE SAID, DUE MOSTLY TO THESE RADIO-EQUIPPED MOTORCYCLES. OVER FILM OF A FLEET OF CYCLES IN PURSUIT OF HAK'S AUTO, CIOFFI OBSERVED THAT "THE CHASE" BEGINS WITH HAK'S DEPARTURE FROM THE EMBASSY. PARISIANS SEEM TO TAKE IT ALL IN STRIDE, SAID CIOFFI. ONE SMALL FRENCH BOY WAS ASKED IF HE KNEW WHAT WAS GOING ON AND RESPONDED THAT IT WAS THE US PRIME MINISTER.

SAIGON RADIO ACCUSED NVN OF HURRIEDLY ISSUING ORDERS OF NVA TROOPS IN SVN TO LEAVE NO TRACES OF THEIR PRESENCE. IT SAID 3#0,000 NVA TROOPS IN SVN WOULD REPRESENT "A PERMANENT THREAT....AN UNPROCLAIMED W/DRAWAL RESULTING FROM SECRET AGREEMENTS IS BUT A FUNNY JOKE." AND IT DEMANDED "EVERYTHING BE PUT IN WRITING. AS LONG AS THERE REMAINS THE SHADOW OF A SINGLE NVA SOLDIER HERE THERE CAN BE NO REASONABLE, NO SOUND POLITICAL SETTLEMENT."...

NY POST QUOTES SVN PA & SOURCES AS SAYING NVA W/DRAWAL "MUST BE PUT IN VERY CLEAR TERMS" IN THE ACCORD, BUT THEY DECLINED TO SAY WHETHER WORDS SUCH AS "W/DRAW" AND "TROOPS" MUST BE USED.

HANOI REDIO ACCUSED GVN OF "WHITE TERROR," SAYING THE "THIEU CLIQUE HAS INDISCRIMINATELY ARRESTED PEOPLE, SUBJECTED THEM TO SAVAGE TORTURES AND SECRETLY DISPOSED OF MANY PATRIOTS ILLEGALLY DETAINED."

AS A "PLEASANT SURPRISE" BECAUSE IT REPRESENTED A BREAK IN THE "SECRET UNDERSTANDING" THAT COMMUNISTS WOULDN'T SHELL SAIGON AS LONG AS US DIDN'T BOMB ABOVE 20TH PARALLEL. GVN IS SAID TO FEEL IF THEY WOULDN'T KEEP THAT "SECRET UNDERSTANDING," HOW CAN THEY BE EXPECTED TO KEEP ANY "SECRET" AGREEMENT RE: NVA WITHDRAWALS?... AP SAYS US SOURCES SPECULATED NVN ROCKETING MIGHT BE TO EXERT PRESSURE ON THE US TO SIGN THE AGREEMENT BY EMPHASIZING THEIR PRESENCE SO CLOSE TO SAIGON.

ABC'S BURKE SAID THE ROCKET ATTACK WAS "OBVIOUSLY AIMED" AT TAN SON NHUT, THE WORST SUCH ATTACK SINCE THE '68 TET. "AS USUAL," SAID BURKE, SOME OF THE ROCKETS WERE OFF TARGET, AS NEARBY NIVILIANS "GOT THE WORST OF IT." THE ROCKETS RIPPED UP MANY HOMES NEAR TSN, INCLUDING ONE CON FILED WHERE OCCUPANTS WERE EATING BREAKFAST. ASIDE FROM THE "SHRAPNEL-TORN BODIES," SAID BURKE, THE ONLY EVIDENCE THAT 6-FOOT LONG ROCKETS HIT HERE ARE THE HOLES THEY LEFT. US COMMAND HQ TOOK MOST OF THE ROCKETS, SAID BURKE, THO UNLIKE THE CIVILIANS THEY HAVE SAND-BAG PROTECTION. BURKE CLOSED ON NOTE THE 1 US GI KILLED, 1 WOUNDED, AND NO ARVN DEATHS REPORTED.

NBC'S HUNT NOTED SHELLING OF TAN SON NHUT WAS 1ST ATTACK IN 8 MONTHS END ONE OF THE FEW THAT'S OCCURRED IN DAYLIGHT. NVN'S STREITHORST W/FILM REPORT OF ARVN RUSHING TO THE AREA THE SHELLS HAD BEEN FIRED FROM, NOTED ARVN USE CHOPPERS, GRENADES AND ARMOR. HE SAID ENEMY TROOPS HAVEN'T BEEN THIS CLOSE TO SAIGON IN THESE NUMBERS SINCE '68....CBS' WAGNER, NOTING LENGTH OF TIME SINCE LAST ATTACK, SAID TAN SON NHUT WAS TOO TEMPTING A TARGET. THERE WAS LIGHT DAMAGE TO BASE, BUT WHERE MISSILES MISSED THEIR TARGETS, THEY TOOK A HIGHER TOLL, HE SAID, OVER FILM SHOWING DAMAGE TO NEARBY CIVILIAN BUILDINGS. HE NOTED WHEN ARVN FOUND OUT WHERE VC LAUNCHED ATTACK, THEY MOVED QUICKLY AND WERE TOLD BY VILLAGERS THE VC HAD HELD THEM CAPTIVE DURING THE NIGHT. REPORTER SAID ATTACK HAVE MORE PROPAGANDA THAN MILITARY VALUE.

NBC NOTED DOD'S FRIEDHEIM SAID THE US IS CONTINUING TO RESEED NVN MINEFIELD SOUTH OF THE 20TH PARALLEL, BUT HAD NO COMMENT WHEN ASKED ABOUT FIELDS NORTH OF THE 20TH...UPI SAYS FRIEDHEIM'S COMMENT THAT NO FREIGHTERS HAD MOVED THRU ANY OF THE FIELDS INDICATED RE-SEEDING IS PROBABLY CONTINUING TO THE THE NORTH, THO.

EAST-ZEST

LAIRD REAFFIRMED RN'S COMMITMENT TO KEEP US TROOPS IN EUR. AT PRESENT LEVEL PENDING MBFR AGREEMENT, BUT ON THE CONDITION NATO ALLIES KEEP THEIR DEFENSE SPENDING HIGH. LAIRD WARNED THERE COULD BE NO SUCCESS IN SALT OR MBFR TALKS IF ALLIED NATIONS WERE TO BEGIN DISARMING FIRST.AP SAYS BY LAIRD'S OWN ACCOUNT HIS SWANSON HAS A POINT ADDRESS. LISTENERS THINKING IT SOUNDED

LIKE A STERN SCHOOL-MASTER LECTURING STUDENTS. AP SAYS LAIRD

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- DISPLAYED SKEPTICISM ABOUT DENMARK, BELGIUM AND HOLLAND'S PLANS TO REORGANIZE THEIR FORCES IN MANNER THAT SUGGESTED CUTBACKS.

ALL NETS NOTED LAIRD SAID RN WILL RECOMMEND THAT THE 304,000-STRONG US FORCE IN EUR. BE MAINTAINED AT LEAST TIL MID-'74 AND PREDICTED THE HILL "WILL APPROVE RN'S RECOMMENDATION." STRESSING THE USSR IS FORGING AHEAD W/ ITS OWN BUILDUP OF POWER, LAIRD SAID THE ADMIN. WILL SET UP A NEW AIRBORNE COMBAT TEAM OF MORE THAN 1,000 MEN FOR EUROPE AND NATL. GUARD UNITS WILL ENGAGE IN EXERCISES W/ NATO FORCES.

US SOURCES SAID ROGERS, GB'S HOME AND FRANCE'S SHUMANN AGREED THEIR COUNTRIES WOULD BE FREE ON DEC. 21, DAY W.-E. GER. TREATY IS TO BE SIGNED, TO OPEN THEIR 1ST CONTACTS W/E. GER.

IN RESPONSE TO PROXMIRE'S URGINGS THE US SEEK EARLY SALT MEETINGS W/PRC, LEONARD OF ARMS CONTROL AGENCY SAID THE US WOULD BE "VERY RECEPITIVE" TO OVERTURES FROM PEKING ON SUCH TALKS. LEONARD SAID IT "HAS LONG BEEN APPARENT" TO US OFFICIALS THAT IT WOULD BE "DESIRABLE TO BROADEN" MULTINATION CONTROL TALKS TO INCLUDE THE PRC, BUT THERE IS LITTLE INDICATION PRC IS INTERESTED.

ABC'S REPORTED ON THE SOVIET SHIP LOADING THE 1ST GRAIN SHIPMENT. "ROUTINE" IS THE WATCHWORD, SAID THE REPORTER, AS THE HAMMER & SICKLE FLAG WAS GIVEN LITTLE NOTICE. LONGSHOREMEN, WHO HAVE PREVIOUSLY OBJECTED TO SUCH VISITS BY SOVIET SHIPS, SEEM TO HAVE TAKEN THEIR CUE FROM FOREIGN POLICY CHANGES. ON FILM, ONE SAID "TIMES HAVE CHANGED," AND ADDED HE COULDN'T SEE ANYTHING WRONG WITH SELLING GRAIN TO THE SOVIETS -- "WE HAVE PLENTY OF IT," HE SAID; A 2ND SAID "IT'S JUST ANOTHER SH P,"

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BUT ADDED HE'S GLAD WE'RE SELLING IT TO THEM INSTEAD OF JUST GIVING IT AWAY; A 3RD SAID THAT "THEY GOTTA' EAT, TOO -- IT'S A GOOD DEAL FOR EVERYBODY." REPORTER CLOSED ON NOTE THAT 4 OTHER SOVIET SHIPS ARE DUE IN.

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OTHER FOREIGN AFFAIRS

ROGERS TOLD EEC LEADERS THAT DIFFERENCES OVER TRADE POLICY IN THE MEDITERRANEAN COULD BE BRIDGED BY "CONSTRUCTIVE DIALOGUE." HE SAID THE US SUPPORTS EEC'S DESIRE TO PLAY A LARGER ROLE IN THE AREA AND THAT US DIFFERENCES OVER EEC PROPOSALS SO FAR ARE OVER REVERSE PREFERENCES (TRADE ADVANTAGES

GRANTED POOR NATIONS TO EEC EXPORTS) BECAUSE THEY SUGGEST A DISCRIMINATORY BLOC IS BEING FORMED AGAINST THE US, WHICH DOESN'T GET SUCH PREFERENCES. . . . HAK CALLED FOR DETERMINED EFFORTS ON BOTH SIDES OF THE ATLANTIC TO COUNTER FORCES WHICH PRESENT DANGER OF "DRIVING A WEDGE BETWEEN THE US AND EUR. PARTNERS, PRIMARILY ON THE ECONOMIC FRONT." HE SAID IMMEDIATE OUTLOOK IS "RATHER BLEAK, BUT I AM SURE GOOD SENSE WILL PREVAIL."

ZIEGLER, ASKED ABOUT REPORTS HEATH WAS TO VISIT US AND CONFER W/RM BEFORE BRITAIN JOINS THE EEC IN JAN., SAID HE HAD NOTHING "OFFICIALLY TO SAY AT THIS TIME," WHICH UPI SAYS IS WORDING WHICH IMPLIES THE VISIT WILL TAKE PLACE.

EAGLETON CHALLENGED VALIDITY OF SEATO AND SAID US SHOULD CONSIDER WITHDRAWING IN VIEW OF IMPROVED US-PRC RELATIONS AND RECENT N. ZEALAND AND PAK DECISIONS TO RE-EVALUATE THEIR MEMBERSHIP.

STATE CHARGED ALLENDE WAS "CONFUSING AND INACCURATE" IN HIS UN ATTACK ON THE US. BRAY DENIED THE US "IS ENGAGED IN ANY KIND OF INVISIBLE BLOCKADE OF CHILE." CONCERNING DROPS IN FOREIGN CREDIT AND INVESTMENT IN CHILE, BRAY SAID "IT DOESN'T SEEM NECESSARY TO LOOK FOR ANY EXOTIC REASON" THO "IT WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO ARGUE CLIMATE FOR FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN CHILE HAS NOT DETERIORATED." BRAY SAID ALLENDE'S '72 UNILATERAL MORATORIUM ON DEBT PAYMENTS "HAS

RIously DAMAGED CHILE'S CREDIT SITUATION."

TO SEEK MORE ECONOMIC AID. UPI SAYS THE 2 SOVIET LEADERS SHOWED NONE OF THE HEARTY BEAR HUGS RESERVED FOR THE CLOSEST USSR ALLIES, THO. PRAVDA WELCOMED ALLENDE AS AN "OUTSTANDING LEADER" IN A P.I. HEADLINE. ABC NOTED ALLENDE RECEIVED ASSURANCES FROM PODGORNY THAT THE USSR AND ALL SOCIALIST COUNTRIES SUPPORTED HIS "REVOLUTIONARY RENOVATION."

RN HAS TOLD UN'S WALDHEIM HE LOOKS FORWARD TO WORKING W/HIM AND OTHER WORLD LEADERS "TO BUILD A NEW STRUCTURE OF LASTING PEACE IN THE WORLD." THE MESSAGE ALSO THANKED AND COMMENDED WALDHEIM FOR HIS "FIRM STAND ON INTERNATL. TERRORISM." TRANSPORT MIN. ROGER BONVIN WAS ELECTED SWITZERLAND'S '73 PRESIDENT FOR THE 2ND TIME, THE 1ST BEING IN '67.

ABC'S WATSON REPORTED ON IRISH REPUBLIC'S CONSTITUTIONAL REFERENDUM WHICH WOULD DELETE THE CODIFIED SPECIAL POSITION OF THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH. WATSON SAID IT IS REGARDED AS A GESTURE TOWARD THE GOAL OF UNITY WITH PROTESTANTS IN THE NORTH. WHILE SUPPORTED BY ALL MAJOR PARTIES, THE CHURCH SEEMS "INDIFFERENT." ONE OPPONENT, THO, IS A FATHER OF 17 CHILDREN WHO SAYS IT WOULD OPEN THE FLOODGATES TO PERMISSIVENESS AND (ON FILM) SAID HE THINKS IT A "SERIOUS ERROR" TO THINK THAT THE CAUSE OF PEACE CAN BE SERVED BY DENYING HONOR TO THE CHURCH. WATSON SAID THAT WITH 95 PER CENT OF COUNTRY CATHOLIC, LEGISLATORS HARDLY NEED THE CONSTITUTION TO REMIND THEM OF THE CONSTITUENTS' BELIEFS -- MANY OF WHICH ARE ALREADY INCORPORATED IN STATUTES. BUT CHANGING THE CONSTITUTION IS A SIGN OF CHANGING TIMES AND A GESTURE TO THE NORTH FOR UNITY.

ISRAEL WILL IGNORE UN QUEST FOR A MIDEAST PEACE IF THE UN CALL FOR IMMEDIATE AND UNCONDITIONAL ISRAELI W/DRAWAL FROM OCCUPIED ARAB LANDS. AL ANWAR SAYS PRESIDENTS OF N. AND S. YEMEN AGREED TO UNITE THEIR COUNTRIES UNDER THREAT OF ARREST BY KADAFI DURING MEETINGS IN NOV. AFTER KADAFI MADE THREAT, THE YEMEN LEADERS URGED KADAFI TO HELP THEM PLAN THE MERGER, SAYS THE PAPER. NBC NOTED EGYPTIAN JET WAS SHOT DOWN BY ITS OWN ANTI-AIRCRAFT WEAPON.

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